

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS (HOUSTON)

IN RE: . Case No. 22-33553
ALEXANDER E. JONES, . Chapter 11
Debtor. . 515 Rusk Street
Houston, TX 77002
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
1:19 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF EMERGENCY MOTION OF THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF
UNSECURED CREDITORS OF ALEXANDER E. JONES TO COMPEL DEBTOR TO
FILE AMENDED SCHEDULES AND STATEMENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH
11 U.S.C. § 521 [189]
BEFORE THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER M. LOPEZ
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE

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Also Present:

KYLE KIMPLER, ESQ.

ALINOR STERLING, ESQ.



1 (Proceedings commence at 1:17 p.m.)

2 THE COURT: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. This is
3 Judge Lopez. Today is March the 8th. I'm going to call the
4 1:15 case, which is the case of Alex Jones.

5 Let me take appearances in the courtroom and then
6 I'll go on the phone. Folks, the line is completely unmuted.
7 I'm going to ask everyone to please take a look at your phone
8 and place it on mute. I'm going to try my best to keep the
9 line unmuted. We'll see how that goes.

10 MR. RUFF: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Jayson Ruff
11 and Ha Nguyen for the U.S. Trustee's office.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Good afternoon to both of you.

13 Ms. Driver, I see you there. Good afternoon.

14 MS. DRIVER: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Vickie
15 Driver here with Crowe & Dunlevy on behalf of Mr. Jones.

16 THE COURT: Okay. I see various members of the
17 Committee. Let me go ahead and take an appearance from the
18 Committee.

19 MS. BRAUNER: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Sara
20 Brauner of Akin Gump on behalf of the Committee and with me is
21 my partner, Katherine Porter.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Good afternoon. Alrighty.

23 MS. PORTER: Good afternoon.

24 MR. BRIMMAGE: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Marty
25 Brimmage with Akin Gump here, also on behalf of the Committee.



1 Good afternoon.

2 THE COURT: Good afternoon. Okay, Ms. Hardy, I see
3 you there. Good afternoon.

4 MS. HARDY: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Jennifer
5 Hardy of Wilkie Farr on behalf of the Texas plaintiffs.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Chapple, I see you there.
7 Good afternoon. Do you wish to make an appearance?

8 MR. CHAPPLE: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Ryan
9 Chapple on behalf of the Connecticut plaintiffs, and I also
10 have Mr. Kyle Kimpler and Ms. Alinor Sterling as well.

11 THE COURT: Okay, good to see both of you. Good
12 afternoon.

13 Mr. Jordan, good afternoon. Mr. Jordan, we can't
14 hear you. I was just giving you the option, not a requirement.

15 MR. JORDAN: Okay. There we go. I'm sorry, Judge.

16 THE COURT: No worries.

17 MR. JORDAN: Apologize. Shelby Jordan, co-counsel
18 for Alex Jones.

19 THE COURT: Okay. It's not required to -- anyone
20 else wish to make an appearance for purposes of this hearing?

21 Okay. Let me -- the Committee, I should say we're
22 here on an emergency motion of the Committee to compel the
23 filing of amended schedules and statements. So it was filed up
24 by the Committee. So I will turn things over to the Committee.

25 MS. PORTER: Thank you, Your Honor. This is



1 Katherine Porter. I will be appearing for the Committee on --
2 in respect of this motion.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MS. PORTER: The motion is largely consensual, and no
5 opposition has been filed, but I would request the opportunity
6 to address the Court briefly as we believe that the relief that
7 is requested in the motion is of great importance to creditors
8 in this case.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MS. PORTER: May I proceed?

11 THE COURT: Please.

12 MS. PORTER: Thank you, Your Honor. By the motion,
13 the Committee requests that the Court enter an order fixing a
14 deadline of March 24 of this year for Mr. Jones to file amended
15 statements and schedules that are both complete and accurate.
16 And to the extent that any information remains incomplete in
17 such amended schedules and statements, requiring that the
18 amended schedules and statements include a declaration for any
19 information that remains incomplete, with a reasonable
20 description of the efforts to obtain the relevant information
21 and the reason that the information or value cannot be
22 ascertained or estimated.

23 We seek this relief at this juncture in the case
24 because the Committee believes that it is necessary for the
25 Court to set clear and unambiguous deadlines for Mr. Jones to



1 file complete and accurate schedules and statements, and to
2 establish procedures designed to ensure that the disclosures
3 comply with the applicable rules.

4 The Committee has been concerned for some time about
5 the need for threshold financial disclosures from Mr. Jones and
6 the lack of meaningful progress in the case as a consequence of
7 the lack of such disclosures to date. Mr. Jones chose to
8 commence this bankruptcy process, and if he wishes to avail
9 himself of the benefits and protections that are afforded by
10 bankruptcy, the Committee contends that he must also meet the
11 burdens that are required by Chapter 11, and those duties
12 include the obligation to prepare complete and accurate
13 schedules and statements. As set forth in our motion, and as
14 this Court is well aware, the duty of the debtor to make
15 complete financial disclosures at the outset of the case is
16 crucial to the proper functioning of the bankruptcy case, and
17 creditors necessarily rely on the information contained in
18 these disclosures.

19 Mr. Jones has twice requested extensions for the
20 deadline to file his schedules and statements, which the Court
21 granted. And the Court ultimately set the extended deadline to
22 February 14, which was a date that Mr. Jones' advisors
23 indicated at that time would allow sufficient time to prepare
24 the disclosure, not to start to prepare them. The Committee
25 did not object to the extensions at the time that they were



1 requested, although the Committee did have concerns and
2 ultimately did submit a statement and reservation of rights,
3 expressing its concerns about the need for complete and
4 accurate disclosures and about the inevitable delays in the
5 case that would result from extensions.

6 Unfortunately, despite the extensions, the schedules
7 and statements that were filed on February 14th are facially
8 deficient. I believe this point is not in dispute. The
9 Committee corresponded with the debtor about the need for
10 amended disclosures in advance of the filing of its motion, and
11 the debtor conceded that the schedules and statements require
12 substantial amendment and also indicated that the amendment
13 could be prepared by the March 20th -- by March 24th.

14 That was the timeline that the Committee believes was
15 longer than was really appropriate, but that is the relief that
16 we request in the motion out of deference to the debtor's
17 counsel's request that the amended schedules and statements be
18 due on that date. The Committee understands that the debtor's
19 amendments are already underway, and is hopeful that the next
20 round of disclosures will be complete. Nevertheless, at this
21 stage in the case, we believe that it is critical that such
22 amendments be subject to clear deadlines and subject to clear
23 rules to facilitate complete and accurate disclosures. The
24 relief that is requested in the motion is designed to ensure
25 that the amended disclosures are not deficient, or, if they



1 are, which again, we hope they won't be, to illuminate the
2 reason for such deficiencies.

3 Since we filed this motion, we have corresponded with
4 the debtor's counsel who expressed some concern about the
5 declarations requested in the motion, and we invited counsel to
6 suggest some sort of modification or accommodation to the
7 relief requested in the motion, but we have not received any
8 response on that point. To be clear, we are not requesting a
9 call log of every outreach effort or an unduly burdensome
10 declaration, but rather a reasonable explanation of efforts
11 that are undertaken to obtain any information that is not
12 ultimately disclosed in the amended schedules and statements.

13 Likewise, we don't intend to impose unreasonable
14 deadlines. We would be willing to agree that the
15 disclosures -- that the declaration that we ask for in
16 connection with the disclosures be delayed by a few days if
17 that would be -- if that would help counsel to the debtor to
18 prepare the declarations. And again, we offer this
19 modification to Mr. Jones' counsel last week, but we have not
20 received a response.

21 But ultimately, our view is that the concept of a
22 declaration describing efforts to complete the disclosures to
23 the extent that the amended disclosures remain incomplete, is
24 essential at this juncture. And we believe that such a
25 requirement may prove to be the keystone to distinguish the



1 forthcoming amended schedules and statements from the
2 February 14 disclosures that (audio interference) themselves
3 submitted on a timeframe that had been agreed to by the debtor
4 and ordered by the Court, but which did not result in adequate
5 disclosures.

6 The case has now been pending for more than three
7 months. And while some professionals have agreed to take on
8 this case on a pro bono basis or on a reduced fee basis, others
9 have not. And it remains true that fees are mounting in two
10 parallel bankruptcy cases and that the cumulative fees are
11 eating into recoveries that should be available to the
12 Committee's constituency. That's one of the many reasons why
13 the Committee believes that the delay in time is a serious
14 point of concern and that we cannot wait indefinitely for
15 threshold disclosures and for the case to begin in earnest.

16 So for the reasons set forth in our motion and in
17 these brief remarks, we would request that the Court grant the
18 Committee's motion and enter the proposed order at Docket
19 Number 189-1. I'd be happy to answer any questions the Court
20 may have.

21 THE COURT: I have no questions. Thank you very
22 much.

23 MS. PORTER: Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Let me hear from -- I'll start in the
25 courtroom. Let me just hear from the United States Trustee.



1 Any thoughts?

2 MR. RUFF: Well, just a couple of comments, Your
3 Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MR. RUFF: We don't oppose what is being sought here.
6 With that being said, however, it was a bit disheartening to
7 see what we did get filed as far as the schedules and what was
8 in there and what was not in there, and also the lack of
9 efforts taken to ascertain what the debtor has and to report
10 them on the schedules.

11 You know, we are -- it's the constituency of the
12 Unsecured Creditors Committee that is -- has the most to gain
13 or lose in these matters. So we are, you know, deferring to
14 their desire to seek to compel. But, you know, the Bankruptcy
15 Code and the Bankruptcy Rules and this Court's orders entered
16 already, already set forth deadlines for them to file complete
17 and accurate schedules. So, like I said, it's a shame that
18 we're here given from where we've come from, and we're hoping
19 that, you know, that this will turn around. We had to continue
20 the 341 hearing to the end of the month, so assuming that --

21 THE COURT: End of this month?

22 MR. RUFF: What's that?

23 THE COURT: The end of this month?

24 MR. RUFF: The end of this month.

25 THE COURT: Okay.



1 MR. RUFF: March 30th, Your Honor. And assuming that
2 the schedules are amended by -- as intended by the March 24th
3 date, that will still allow parties-in-interest, you know, a
4 fair amount of time to be able to review them. So as far as
5 the time frame, I think it works. But I just wanted to express
6 at least our view that it is disappointing that we're even at
7 this point, quite frankly, given everything that's been said in
8 this case, the importance, the known importance of these
9 disclosures, which are important, not only in this case, but in
10 every bankruptcy case. That is the bargain. You get to get
11 your fresh start and you get relief under the Bankruptcy Code.
12 But you have to disclose, and you have to make a good faith
13 effort to disclose. And, you know, the efforts that were made,
14 at least in my opinion, humble opinion, were just not there,
15 Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Anyone else wish to be
17 heard?

18 MR. KIMPLER: Your Honor, it's -- it's Kyle Kimpler
19 on behalf of the Connecticut plaintiffs. May I be heard?

20 THE COURT: Absolutely, Mr. Kimpler. Good afternoon.

21 MR. KIMPLER: So -- thank you. So just to give you
22 the perspective of my clients; again, these are the Sandy Hook
23 families that had brought suit in Connecticut and have about
24 \$1.4 billion of judgments against the debtor. I'd echo what we
25 just heard from the U.S. Trustee. We're extremely



1 disappointed.

2 I just want to give one example of that. The debtor
3 listed eight different trusts that he has an interest in, but
4 the value of those trusts was listed as unknown. One of those
5 trusts, called the Missouri Trust; the debtor is the settlor of
6 that trust. The debtor is the beneficiary of that trust. The
7 debtor's father is the trustee of that trust. That trust has
8 paid very recently, a million plus dollars for retention
9 payments to the debtor's professionals.

10 From my clients' perspective, the notion that the
11 value of that trust is not known and was not known three weeks
12 ago, is pretty hard to believe. My clients are not surprised.
13 We've been litigating with the debtor for now five years. He's
14 never complied with discovery obligations. He actively says to
15 his audience that they should make donations to him so that
16 those funds can be used to seek delays through legal
17 proceedings. So this is not a surprise to us. We've seen this
18 movie before.

19 At some point, enough has to be enough. I hope we
20 don't have to be back here, Your Honor, on another extension or
21 similar motion, but at some point, you know, I think my clients
22 would say that there are going to need to be greater
23 consequences, but I'm hoping that that day will not come.

24 Your Honor, unless you have any questions, that's all
25 we wanted to say on this.



1 THE COURT: No, thank you very much. Anyone else?

2 MS. DRIVER: Your Honor, I know you want to hear from
3 everyone else first, so I just want to make sure I'm not
4 jumping in line of any other counsel for the same -- Sandy
5 Hook, who wishes to speak.

6 THE COURT: No, no, no. I'm just going --

7 MS. DRIVER: -- who wishes to speak.

8 THE COURT: No one's walking up to the podium, so I
9 can't go in order, so I'm just -- if anyone wishes to be heard?

10 MS. DRIVER: No, I think everybody was -- I mean, I
11 think everyone on the phone is on -- in support of this motion.
12 We certainly were before we filed it. Sandy Hook has seven
13 attorneys on the line. I want to make sure that all their
14 seven have a chance to speak before I do.

15 THE COURT: No. You can speak. Why don't you go?
16 Because I need to hear from you.

17 MS. DRIVER: Oh, thank you, Your Honor. I appreciate
18 that. Thank you, Your Honor.

19 The schedules that we filed -- we worked from the
20 moment that they -- we have been working since the moment this
21 case was filed to get those completed. This is the most
22 disorganized financial case I have ever encountered, and I
23 believe that I've heard the same for Mr. Schwiser (phonetic)
24 and Mr. Kessler, who've been doing this twice as long. And so
25 it has been incredibly complicated.



1 One of the things that I would like to say is that
2 for an unopposed notion, this is the most I've ever heard, and
3 quite frankly, I've never been shamed by the U.S. Trustee's
4 office on a public hearing, but I am shamed, and I hear it.
5 What I would like to say is that my office lost an associate.
6 There is a spring break coming up, and there were just multiple
7 hurdles to cross. We have been undergoing what I would
8 consider a yeoman's effort. If you look at our fee statements,
9 and you accept that we're not lying about our time, you know
10 how much time we've been spending trying to do this. So it is
11 very important for me to say to whoever's listening on this
12 line, and especially to Your Honor, that the efforts that we
13 have been undergoing are very, very robust in what is a very,
14 very complicated case.

15 What I can tell you also is that we have -- really
16 feel like we've broken through a couple of layers of
17 communication with third parties that had information. And we
18 really do feel like we're drilling down on the matter. But it
19 is just -- it's disheartening to me that we had to come on and
20 say a lot of the things that we've said here, that I'm sure
21 will be repeated in the media because I agreed to the relief
22 requested.

23 We had a very nice conversation where we agreed to
24 March 24th as the -- kind of the final amendment date. And
25 while I did not see what sort of piece they wanted in an order



1 until it was filed, I understand they want a declaration and I
2 appreciate giving me a few days after the schedules are filed
3 to get that done. We're dealing with a three-person team at
4 BlackBriar, and thankfully I've had a couple of associates from
5 our Oklahoma office that have just entered and are really
6 helping with the document review and production.

7 And just for the record, Your Honor, not -- we're not
8 just fully working on the schedules and statements, but we are
9 reviewing an ocean of documents to respond to what is over 106
10 requests for production that have been in draft form that have
11 been sent to us from the Committee, and we are attacking this
12 all at the same time. And we also have a 2004 request that was
13 filed in front of Your Honor that we are working to respond to
14 by the end of this week.

15 Candidly, we have been effectively drowned and
16 overwhelmed by the multiple sets of lawyers for the same set of
17 plaintiffs. And so it is, I -- like I said, I'm sufficiently
18 shamed. I'm sufficiently admonished, and I believe that I'm
19 well aware of what the requirements are for the Bankruptcy
20 Code, and I am well aware of the fact that there are amendments
21 to make to these schedules.

22 As a matter of fact, what hasn't been told to Your
23 Honor, is that before the 341 meeting, the night before, I sent
24 a written statement of multiple amendments that we had
25 identified since the filing. And that was sent out to the U.S.



1 Trustee and the Committee. And so it -- I believe that our
2 efforts have been woefully underreported. I believe that our
3 efforts have been in good faith, and it's just we have a client
4 in this situation that just has very little knowledge of his
5 financial background.

6 And so while it would be really nice just to go to
7 him and say, what do you own? It is not appropriate for me to
8 rely on just what he says. I am looking for secondhand support
9 for every fact in the scheduling statement because that is what
10 I believe is going to be required by the people who, as
11 Mr. Kimpler sufficiently said, never believe a word my client
12 says.

13 So we are undergoing what is a very, very detailed
14 analysis to get as much information as we can in these
15 schedules. And it has taken longer than I anticipated. But we
16 are absolutely here in good faith and absolutely admonishing
17 our client to do the same.

18 THE COURT: Well, let me just say this, and I'm not
19 here to question anyone's efforts and their hard work. I fully
20 understand folks have been working incredibly hard on the
21 schedules, and I'm speaking of you, Ms. Driver. I don't
22 question that. If you tell me you've been working hard, and
23 you've been working hard, we're still faced with the fact that
24 I have a Subchapter V case for an individual, right? And the
25 case was filed in December -- on December 2nd. Now we're



1 approaching a hundred days into a case, and we still don't have
2 kind of complete and accurate schedules and that's the dilemma
3 that we're faced with. And --

4 MS. DRIVER: It's not -- I'm sorry, Your Honor. It's
5 not a Subchapter V.

6 THE COURT: Just -- oh, excuse me, just the
7 individual case. And I apologize. I have to think about it.
8 We have to kind of figure out where we are in a -- and I got to
9 know if we have a case, and I keep saying that. But we don't
10 have a case if there aren't accurate schedules. And so we're
11 going to have -- I need to understand if the debtor is capable
12 of producing accurate schedules or not.

13 I gave an extra week extension at the time because I
14 wanted to make sure that there were complete and accurate
15 schedules. I apologize. I was confusing this with the FSS
16 case, which is related and put together.

17 But, you know, there's a Committee involved. There
18 are numerous creditors involved. The process demands
19 transparency. The schedules are to be filed to the best of
20 one's ability.

21 So I'm going to grant the Committee's emergency
22 motion. I'm going to find that emergency relief is
23 appropriate. I do believe, despite it being uncontested, I
24 appreciate the comments from the Committee because I needed to
25 understand, and I've got to find that there's an actual need



1 for an emergency hearing and the basis for the relief
2 requested. So I think the Committee had to do their job and
3 present a statement to the Court that I can then rely on as to
4 why the specific relief was requested and why certain relief
5 was requested in the proposed order.

6 I'm going to make two tweaks to the order, and I'm
7 going to tell everyone why. I'm going to extend the deadline
8 to March 30th. I know you got a 341. Well, no -- yeah. I'm
9 going to extend it to March 30th, because you told me you got a
10 341 at March -- I'm going to extend it to March 30th at noon.
11 Okay. I'm going to give you as much time as possible.

12 I will note, Ms. Driver, that in every time this
13 debtor has asked for help, an application was filed, and I held
14 that hearing as soon as I could, and relief has been granted.
15 I'm also going to delete the paragraph requiring the
16 declaration, and I'm telling you why. And I want the Committee
17 to understand why, because if the -- and I mean this, and I
18 want the Committee, and I want professionals to really
19 understand what I'm saying.

20 This is not an opportunity to, I should say, take
21 advantage of the situation. But the reality is if we still
22 have incomplete schedules that are clearly not complete, I need
23 to hold a hearing, and I need BlackBriar to come in here, and I
24 need the debtor to come in here, and we need to have an in-
25 person hearing, where I can understand where we are, the



1 | efforts that have been taken, and where this case goes.

2 | So I don't -- I'd rather you spend your time making
3 | sure that there are complete and accurate schedules. And I
4 | will tell everyone, I'd rather not hold the hearing, and I
5 | don't want to rely on declarations as to whether there's -- I
6 | think the debtor's going to have to come in, and we need to
7 | have a conversation, and I need to hear from the debtor, and I
8 | need to hear from BlackBriar. I need to hear from the tax
9 | advisor. I need to hear from anyone who can tell me where the
10 | deficiencies are in the efforts that have been taken so that
11 | there's complete transparency in the process.

12 | And I would do this in any Chapter 11 case in which,
13 | you know, we were approaching four months and schedules had not
14 | been on file. I think we need to know what's really going on,
15 | and I know everyone's working hard. I need to now understand
16 | more detail, and I hope we don't have to have the hearing. I
17 | hope the schedules are on file, and we can take things up in
18 | the ordinary course, other matters, and proceed with the
19 | Chapter 11 case.

20 | But that's where we're going. I don't want -- in
21 | other words, my concern is that the schedules get filed and
22 | there's a declaration and then you know, there would be
23 | questions raised about the declaration. Let's just bypass all
24 | of that.

25 | If there are incomplete schedules, the debtor will



1 know, and I'll schedule a hearing, and we'll have a hearing,
2 and we can all come in person and have a conversation about
3 kind of where things are. And again, this is not to -- the
4 purpose of the hearing will be solely to understand the efforts
5 that have been taken in connection with the schedules, what --
6 any issues that remain outstanding. It's going to be a serious
7 hearing if we have to have it, and I'm hoping to avoid it. But
8 if we have to have it, we'll have it, and we'll do it in short
9 order.

10 So -- but I want the process to play out. I want
11 schedules on file. I want you to have a 341 hearing.
12 Obviously I'm not involved in that. I don't know what goes on
13 in 341 meetings or listen to them. But I'll be able to look at
14 the schedules myself, and I'll know if there's a real need for
15 a hearing, and I may have questions myself.

16 So, Ms. Driver, if you need additional help, file an
17 application and get the help. But, you know, we can't go six
18 months in. You know, this can't drag into five, six months
19 into a case without an individual that are not having filed
20 their schedules. There has to be a point at which the case
21 must be able to proceed, but there's too much triggered off of
22 the filing of schedules and statements and accurate schedules
23 and statements.

24 But I do understand how serious they are. They're
25 filed under penalty of perjury. So I understand the need for



1 accuracy, and I respect that. I think what I'm doing is trying
2 to balance the interests of the Committee, the transparency
3 that the process requires, and as well, giving the debtor every
4 opportunity to file complete and accurate schedules and
5 statements.

6 So I made those tweaks. I hope the Committee's okay
7 with them, but I think -- I think it's necessary, so I can make
8 the changes. I'm just adding two days and striking one
9 paragraph. But everyone knows, if we still have a bunch of
10 unknowns, and Ms. Driver, that's not to say that you can't file
11 declarations, right? You certainly can. I'm just not going to
12 order you to do it. I'd rather you spend your time not
13 preparing declarations, but knowing that there could be a
14 hearing coming afterwards. So I'd rather you spend every
15 moment and BlackBriar, encouraging complete and accurate
16 disclosure because that's what the process requires.

17 Ms. Brauner, are you okay with that?

18 MS. PORTER: Thank you, Your Honor. This is
19 Katherine Porter.

20 THE COURT: Oh, Ms. Porter.

21 MS. PORTER: Thank you for granting the motion, and
22 we are -- we accept the changes.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MS. PORTER: Thank you.

25 THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Driver, are you okay with



1 that?

2 Ms. Porter, I apologize. You know, I -- you get into
3 reading boxes. One of the problems with virtual hearings is
4 you start reading boxes, and you have a name in your head, but
5 then you read the box, and I apologize. I know you were
6 conducting the hearing.

7 MS. PORTER: It was very misleading.

8 Ms. Driver, are you okay with that?

9 MS. DRIVER: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MS. DRIVER: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MS. DRIVER: Can you hear me?

14 THE COURT: Just fine. Thank you very much.

15 Anything else we need to talk about today?

16 MS. DRIVER: Ms. Porter, I didn't know if we wanted
17 to just note for the record that one other thing that we've
18 been working on, and we've had just a great working
19 relationship with the party, is trying to work through the
20 motion for relief from stay that was filed on behalf of some of
21 the Texas plaintiffs. I think we are moving -- we just wanted
22 to alert the Court that we are moving towards and through a
23 potential resolution. And we will alert Your Honor if we
24 receive one so that you can have that time back on your
25 calendar.



1 THE COURT: Okay. Not a problem. And everyone
2 knows, just email Ms. Saldana, and she'll get you a hearing
3 date for that and we can talk about it. Okay?

4 Anything else we need to talk about today? I'll get
5 this signed and on the docket. Thanks, everyone. Have a good
6 day.

7 MS. PORTER: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 MS. DRIVER: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 MS. BRAUNER: Thank you.

10 (Proceedings concluded at 1:45 p.m.)

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14 **C E R T I F I C A T I O N**

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16 I, Alicia Jarrett, court-approved transcriber, hereby
17 certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the
18 official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the
19 above-entitled matter.

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24 ALICIA JARRETT, AAERT NO. 428 DATE: March 24, 2023

25 ACCESS TRANSCRIPTS, LLC

